
EFFECTIVE

April 1, 2022.

Subject(s)

1. GDM 720, Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Rate Determination.
2. GDM 740, Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Agreements/ Guardian Responsibilities.
3. GDM 745, Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Case Opening and Duration.
4. GDM 750, Successor Guardian.

**1) GDM 720,
Juvenile
Guardianship
Assistance Rate
Determination****Overview**

Prospective guardian(s) may waive their right to have an eligibility determination for guardianship assistance by signing and checking the *not requesting* on the DHS-2051, Caregiver Permanency Planning Checklist.

If the guardian(s) chooses not to request guardianship assistance and does not have a guardianship assistance agreement signed by both the guardian(s) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Office (AGAO) program manager or MDHHS designee prior to the court's appointment of the guardian(s), they will not be eligible for guardianship assistance payments in the future.

If the child's foster care rate changes at any time prior to the appointment of the guardianship after a guardianship assistance agreement is in place the foster care caseworker must submit a change request. A new guardianship assistance agreement must be in place with all required signatures prior to the appointment of the guardianship.

Maximum Rate Determination

The rate determination includes any Determination of Care (DOC) rate that is approved for the child in foster care at the time of application.

No DOC Rate

The DHS-470, Assessment for Determination of Care for Children in Foster Care (Age One Day- 12 Years), DHS-470-A, Assessment for Determination of Care for Children in Foster Care (Age 13 and Older) or the DHS-1945, Assessment of Determination of Care for Medically Fragile Children in Foster Care, and the DHS-668, Notification of Determination of Care (DOC) Decision must be submitted.

DOC I, II, III Rate

A copy of a current local MDHHS-approved DOC assessment, the DHS-470], DHS-470-A, or the DHS-1945, dated within six months and the DHS-668.

DOC Rate Above Level III

The DHS-668 must be submitted with the documentation.

Payments Established Below the Maximum Rate

The effective date of a negotiated guardianship assistance rate is based on the date of approval from the AGAO, but no more than 30 calendar days after the request to negotiate with supporting documentation were received by the AGAO. The child is not eligible for an increased payment prior to the effective date. The negotiated rate is activated when both the adoption and guardianship assistance program manager or MDHHS designee and the guardian(s) have signed the new agreement.

Reason: Recommendation from the AGAO.

**2) GDM 740,
Juvenile
Guardianship
Assistance
Agreement/
Guardian
Responsibilities**

Overview

A guardianship assistance agreement must be signed by both the guardian(s) and the adoption and guardianship assistance program manager or MDHHS designee prior to the court's appointment of the guardian(s) and is effective on the date of the guardian's appointment.

If the guardianship assistance agreement is not signed by all parties before the date of the court's appointment of the guardian(s), the child will not be eligible for guardianship assistance.

Agreement Provisions

The Agreement Provisions section was changed and merged to Guardianship Assistance/Nonrecurring Expenses Agreement Provisions.

Medical Subsidy

The Medical Subsidy section was changed and merged to Medical Subsidy Agreement Provisions.

Guardianship Assistance and Medical Subsidy

Review the agreement for completeness and accuracy and resolves all problems before proceeding.

Obtain the AGAO designee signature on the agreement.

Return the agreement to the assigned foster care caseworker.

Post-Guardianship Medical Subsidy

Review the agreement for completeness and accuracy and resolve all problems before proceeding.

Obtain the AGAO designee signature on the agreement.

Return the signed agreement to the guardian(s).

Reason: Recommendation from the AGAO.

**3) GDM 745,
Juvenile
Guardianship
Assistance Case
Opening and
Duration**

Overview

Overview was added.

The assigned foster care caseworker is responsible for informing the AGAO of the appointment of the guardian(s) immediately after the court signs the guardianship order.

Guardianship Assistance and Medical Subsidy

The assigned foster care caseworker has completed the DHS-1344G, Guardianship Assistance Case Opening Request. The DHS-1344G must be signed by the guardian(s). It is required to initiate the guardianship assistance payment and to determine the appropriate funding sources for the guardianship assistance (title IV-E or state funds).

The assigned foster care caseworker has submitted a copy of the court's signed appointment of guardianship.

The foster care payment has been closed.

If the guardianship is appointed for the child prior to the DHS-3313, Juvenile Guardianship Assistance Agreement, receiving the required final signatures the child will be ineligible to receive guardianship assistance funds through the AGAO.

Reporting Changes

The guardian(s) or guardian's representative, in the event of the guardian's death must notify the AGAO in writing within 14 calendar days after any of the above changes occur.

Medical Subsidy Duration

The child is adopted.

The guardianship is revoked or terminated.

The guardian(s) has requested in writing that the guardianship medical subsidy to permanently stop.

The guardian(s) is no longer legally responsible for the support of the child.

The guardian(s) is no longer providing support for the child.

The guardian(s) dies. If a successor guardian(s) is appointed due to death of the prior guardian(s).

Reason: Recommendation from the AGAO.

**4) GDM 750,
Successor
Guardian**

Overview

Guardianship assistance and medical subsidy agreements are written legally binding agreements between the department and the successor guardian(s) that include the agreement provisions.

Juvenile Guardianship Assistance

The MDHHS juvenile guardianship assistance eligibility determination process must be completed and if found eligible, an agreement will be issued to the successor guardian(s). The juvenile guardianship assistance agreement must be signed by the successor guardian(s) and the adoption and guardianship assistance program manager or MDHHS designee before payments can be made.

Extension Agreements

The guardianship assistance agreement must be in place and the guardianship must be appointed prior to the youth turning 18-years of age.

Reason: Recommendation from the AGAO.

**MANUAL
MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS**

Changed Items ...

[GDM 720](#)

[GDM 740](#)

[GDM 745](#)

[GDM 750](#)